



Analysis Of Linguistic, Sociocultural, And Sociolinguistic Features of A Written Text In A Foreign Language

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ABSTRACT

The communication and comprehension of a message in a foreign language are greatly influenced by the linguistic, sociocultural, and sociolinguistic characteristics of a written text. This article aims to examine the different elements of a written text in a foreign language and explore how these features contribute to its interpretation, social context, and overall significance.

Keywords:

Syntax, morphology, vocabulary, grammatical structures, language proficiency, conjunctions, conjunctive words, syntactic constructions, linguistic features

Introduction. Linguistic features encompass various elements of a written text, including grammar, syntax, morphology, and vocabulary. These features are essential for conveying the intended meaning and ensuring effective communication. When examining a written text in a foreign language, linguistic features offer valuable insights into the writer's style, tone, and language proficiency. One crucial linguistic feature to consider is the grammatical structure of the written text. This encompasses the use of tenses, verb forms, conjunctions, and prepositions, which collectively contribute to the coherence and clarity of the message. In a foreign language, differences in grammatical structures can pose challenges for both the writer and the reader, particularly when expressing complex ideas and conveying subtle nuances of meaning. Another significant linguistic feature is the use of vocabulary. The selection of words and phrases in a written text reflects the writer's language proficiency, style, and register. In a foreign language, the richness and diversity of vocabulary enhance the depth and precision of the message, as well as the

writer's ability to effectively articulate ideas. Furthermore, idiomatic expressions, collocations, and figurative language contribute to the cultural and contextual aspects of the text, adding layers of meaning and depth to the communication. Syntax and sentence structure also play a vital role in linguistic analysis. The arrangement of words and phrases in a sentence, along with the use of clauses and punctuation, determine the coherence and cohesion of the written text. In a foreign language, variations in sentence structure may introduce challenges related to word order, subject-verb agreement, and sentence complexity, thereby impacting the overall readability and comprehension of the text. Sociocultural features encompass the social and cultural context in which the written text is produced and interpreted. These features encompass the cultural norms, values, and beliefs that shape language use, communication styles, and the depiction of societal practices and customs in the written text. One important sociocultural feature to consider is the presence of cultural references and allusions

within the written text. These references may include historical events, literary figures, traditional practices, and societal norms that are specific to the culture associated with the foreign language. By incorporating cultural references, the written text gains depth and authenticity, offering insights into the cultural identity and worldview of the writer. However, these references may pose challenges for readers who are unfamiliar with the cultural context, potentially leading to misunderstandings or misinterpretations of the text.

Furthermore, the portrayal of social interactions and interpersonal relationships in the written text reflects sociocultural features. Politeness norms, hierarchy, and forms of address vary across cultures and languages, influencing the tone and manner of communication in written texts. When writing in a foreign language, authors must navigate these sociocultural nuances to convey respect, empathy, and understanding. Additionally, considering societal roles, gender dynamics, and power structures within the cultural context is crucial for comprehending the sociocultural dimensions of the written text.

The thematic content and subject matter of the written text also reflect sociocultural features. The depiction of social issues, traditions, and cultural practices in the foreign language text provides insights into the cultural heritage and contemporary realities of the society in which the language is spoken. Analyzing the sociocultural themes and motifs in the written text contributes to a deeper understanding of the cultural context and societal dynamics embedded in language use.

Literature review. A written text is a complex form of speech that possesses a specific logical, compositional, and semantic structure. It encompasses subject matter, linguistic features, and communicative characteristics. The text functions as a unified communicative entity, and its semantic content is conveyed through a series of predicates, which introduce new information, and judgments that reveal the attributes of the subject, which is already known[1]. Furthermore, the text represents a

comprehensive piece of discourse[2]. I.R.Galperin defines a text in the field of linguistics as "a product of the speech-making process that exhibits completeness, materialized in the form of a written document, literarily processed by the document's genre, consisting of a heading (title) and several supra-phrasal units connected by various lexical, grammatical, and stylistic means, and possessing a specific purpose and pragmatic intention"[3]. Additionally, the text can be perceived as a collection of sentences arranged in a particular manner to achieve a singular communicative objective. The characteristics of a text include semantic and communicative coherence, as well as structural integrity[4]. The written text demonstrates coherence by establishing logical and semantic relationships that permeate the text at various levels [1].

There are several types of cohesion present in the text that reflect the semantic content of the text. These include grammatical cohesion, which involves the use of conjunctions, conjunctive words, and syntactic constructions. Logical cohesion is also evident, as the text includes introductory words and expressions that reflect causal, ordinal, temporal, and spatial relations. Additionally, lexical cohesion is present through the use of lexical substitutions, synonyms, antonyms, and repetitions. The text also exhibits associative cohesion, which involves the disclosure of the topic through subtopics and images. Furthermore, figurative cohesion is observed through the use of expressive linguistic means. The text also demonstrates compositional-structural, stylistic, and rhythmic-forming cohesion [1]. The written text is characterized by its dialogical nature[5] When creating a written text, it is important to consider the reader of the text. The dialogical nature of the text is evident in the interaction between the author and the reader, where the reader is an active participant in the communication process. Human thinking is inherently dialogic, as our thoughts are shaped through interactions with the thoughts of others and are expressed through verbal forms[5]

Despite the monologue nature of written speech, where direct contact with the reader is

absent, the written text is still oriented towards the reader. When creating written texts in a foreign language, it is crucial to not only select appropriate language tools but also understand the communicative situation. A communicative situation refers to the specific context in which written speech is produced[1]. This includes the intended meanings, the temporal aspects of speech, the communicative purpose, the type of text being created, and the communicative characteristics of that particular text type. Additionally, it involves considering the social and individual characteristics of potential readers of the text.

Research methodology. The written text, being a form of communication, requires careful consideration of the context in which the communicative task is being carried out. Therefore, it is crucial to approach the generation of written text from two perspectives: procedural (the process of creating the text) and productive (the text as the result of this process). As a product, a written text should possess certain qualities, including compositional and structural completeness, logical and semantic coherence, subject matter relevance, unity of construction, communicative effectiveness, and the establishment of connections between single or multiple objects [4]. On the other hand, as a process, a written text is characterized by the presence of a feedback mechanism inherent in written communication, which facilitates the learning process of writing. Additionally, a written text always carries social implications, cultural influences, intellectual aspects, and individual human experiences [1]. The value orientations and relationships between the participants of communication also become integral components of a written text [1]. Sociolinguistics, as a fundamental discipline in foreign language teaching, provides insights into how language functions in social reality, the interconnectedness and interaction between language and its context, and the functional significance of language in various social spheres of communication. Discourse, encompassing both verbal and non-verbal aspects of communication influenced by

culture, serves as the primary category that enables us to identify important characteristics of written speech in foreign languages.

It should be emphasized that in this particular scenario, differences in linguistic cultures will give rise to instances of linguistic interference. The linguistic features inherent in written English may vary significantly or even be absent in the native language. Another challenge arises from the fact that the selection of specific linguistic features for constructing a text depends not only on the culture of the native language but also on the professional (disciplinary) field of knowledge. For instance, the use of the pronouns "I" or "we" is more prevalent in socio-humanitarian texts, while an impersonal style and passive constructions are characteristic of the exact sciences[6]. Furthermore, it is worth noting that communicative genres, in our perspective, are characterized by descriptive and explanatory tasks within the text, whereas genres that involve transmitting or transforming information tend to contain more analytical and argumentation-based types of texts. These aforementioned attributes of a foreign-language written text and written speech highlight the significant role and interdependence of linguistic and extralinguistic factors in a written text, necessitating a more in-depth exploration of the social nature of the written text.

Analysis and results. Sociolinguistic features encompass the influence of social factors on language use and communication, shedding light on the dynamics of sociolinguistics, language variation, and communicative strategies employed in written texts within specific social contexts. One crucial sociolinguistic feature to consider is the register and style of the written text. Register refers to the level of formality, politeness, and appropriateness in language use, which often varies based on the social context, audience, and purpose of communication. In a foreign language, understanding the appropriate register and style is essential for writers to effectively convey their message and engage with the intended readership. The choice of

register also reflects the writer's social identity and communicative competence in the foreign language. Language variation and dialectal features also play a significant role in sociolinguistic analysis. In a foreign language, variations in dialects, regional accents, and language varieties may impact the comprehensibility and authenticity of the written text. Additionally, the use of social and linguistic markers, such as honorifics, politeness particles, and dialectal expressions, adds layers of sociolinguistic complexity to the written text, influencing the interaction between the writer and the reader. Another essential sociolinguistic feature to consider is the impact of social factors, such as age, gender, social status, and group affiliation, on language use and communication. The writer's implicit or explicit engagement with social identity markers and social positioning in the written text reflects the sociolinguistic nuances and sociocultural dynamics embedded in language use. Sociolinguistic analysis provides insights into the power dynamics, identity politics, and communicative strategies employed in written texts within specific social contexts.

Conclusion. To gain a comprehensive understanding of language use and communication, it is crucial to analyze the linguistic, sociocultural, and sociolinguistic aspects of a written text in a foreign language. By examining these features, we can delve into the structural, cultural, and social dimensions of the text, thereby developing a deeper appreciation for the language itself and the sociocultural and sociolinguistic influences it embodies. This understanding is particularly important for language learners, researchers, translators, and educators as they navigate the intricate nature of written texts in foreign languages.

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